

**REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
CITY OF COLUMBIANA, ALABAMA
November 19, 2019**

The City Council of the City of Columbiana, Alabama met in a Regular Session in the Council Chambers of Columbiana City Hall at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 19, 2019. Mayor Stancil Handley called the meeting to order and asked City Clerk, Charlene Tucker to call roll after the invocation and pledge.

Present:

Council Member Leslie Whiting
Council Member Barbara Moore
Council Member Ricky Ruston

Council Member Ouida Mayfield
Council Member Kim King
Mayor Stancil Handley

Absent:

None

The Mayor declared that a quorum was present.

Before any City business was conducted, the Mayor wanted to announce that Council Member Leslie Whiting would be the Grand Marshall for the Christmas parade.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of Minutes 11-5-19 Regular Council Meeting
- B. Approval of Minutes 11-12-19 Council Work Session
- C. Approval of Check Registers for November 10, 2019 Accounts Payable Batches
- D. Approval for Assistant Fire Chief Brett Ashworth to attend Officer Development Program training on January 13-17, 2020 in Pensacola Beach, FL and to use the credit card to register. Cost not to exceed \$475.00.

Council Member Whiting made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, which was seconded by Council Member Ruston and followed by a unanimous show of hands vote of all members present. The Mayor declared the motion carried.

SWEARING IN POLICE OFFICER JUDSON ETHEREDGE

The Mayor swore in police Officer Judson Etheredge. Officer Etheredge's first day was yesterday.

NATIONAL HOSPICE AND PALLIATIVE CARE MONTH PROCLAMATION

Whereas, hospice and palliative care is a specialized form of healthcare for people with serious and life-limiting illnesses. Provided by an interdisciplinary team of physicians, nurses, social workers, pharmacists, allied therapists, psychological and spiritual counselors, and trained community volunteers, hospice and palliative care is person-centered, individualized treatment to accommodate the needs and wishes of a patient and their family. At the center of hospice and palliative care is the

belief that each of us has the right to live and die pain-free and with dignity, and that our families will receive the necessary support to allow us to do so.

Whereas, the Medicare Hospice Benefit was signed into law in 1982, and now almost 1.5 million Americans are served by hospice annually. Hospices operate in all 50 states, and there are over 4,500 Medicare-certified hospices nationwide. Perhaps most importantly, hospice care is available to all Medicare Beneficiaries in their homes or place of residence, and provides care not only for the patient, but also for their families during the illness and after, helping them cope with the grief of losing a loved one.

Whereas, palliative care is specialized medical care for people with serious illness, focusing on providing relief from the symptoms and stress of a serious illness and to improve the quality of life for both the patient and the family. It is similar to hospice care, in that it is a person-centered, interdisciplinary approach to treating serious illness. But there remains a great need to increase public awareness about the benefits of hospice and palliative care, and to assure access to all Americans regardless of their diagnosis, prognosis, or place of residence.

Whereas, all American patients and their caregivers deserve access to the important care and support that hospice and palliative care provide. Unfortunately, just as the baby boomer generation is reaching their senior years, the hospice and palliative care workforce is struggling to keep up with demand. If action is not taken, there will be only one physician for every 26,000 seriously ill patients by 2030.

Whereas, during this National Hospice and Palliative Care Month, the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization urges all Americans to not only explore the benefits of hospice and palliative care for themselves and their families, but also to salute the important work that hospice and palliative care providers and volunteers do to protect the dignity of human life, support the courageous caregivers, and help grieving Americans cope with the loss of a loved one.

Whereas, the members of the National Hospice and Palliative Care Organization urge Congress to ensure a strong American healthcare workforce to address the needs of aging baby boomers and Americans facing serious illness and the end of life.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Stencil Handley, Mayor of the City of Columbiana do hereby proclaim November 2019 as National Hospice and Palliative Care Month in Columbiana, Alabama. NHPCO urges all government agencies, the healthcare community, appropriate private organizations, and the people of the United States to observe the month of November with appropriate programs and activities to raise awareness, recognize, and support hospice and palliative care.

**PRESENTATION TO SERGEANT SASHA KNIGHTEN FROM STUDENTS AT THE
CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION CENTER (CTEC)**

The students at the Career Technical and Education Center wanted to thank Sergeant Sasha Knighten for helping with their program. Every year the fire and police training class holds interviews and Sergeant Knighten interviews students. She also teaches classes and helps students throughout the year.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

- **Admin** – City Clerk Charlene Tucker reported that everything is going good at City Hall. There are two heat units on the roof that have gone out. These are original to the building and will cost between \$10,000-15,000 to replace both.
- **Streets** – Allen Reynolds reported that his department has been trimming low hanging limbs on trees. They are working on putting up ornaments and lights for Christmas. They are waiting on their truck to get back from the shop so they can work on cleaning gutters.
- **Library** – Shelia Gallups reported that five attended the beginner computer class last Saturday. They will have Thanksgiving crafts this Thursday at 4:30 and Thanksgiving movies on Monday.
- **Fire** – Chief Johnny Howard, Jr. reported that his department is finishing up with their training for the year. The inspection is complete on the new Mexican restaurant by the high school. They are scheduled to open on the 23rd. Their ladders were tested last week. This is done once a year and one ground ladder failed and will have to be replaced. They have ran a couple of mutual aid calls. There was a hazmat incident at the Humane Society from training at the Sheriff's Office Training Center. There were several small issues with that incident.
- **Environmental** – Dale Lucas reported that he will be collecting quarterly water samples tomorrow. His two new employees are doing good and advancing. The pressure relief valve at the pump station at Cornerstone Christian School is being replaced.
- **Planning & Zoning** – Dale Lucas reported that he is resigning from the planning and zoning board but will stay on until someone can replace him. He will still prepare the packets, attend meetings and answer questions. He feels this will be best since he is the City's Planning and Zoning Director and should only be in an informational role instead of having a vote on the board. Building in Springs Crossing Sector 2 should start at the end of December.
- **Police** – Lieutenant Jeff Bowers reported that his department is still transitioning from Chief Vick's retirement and that everything is going good. They will be reaching out to citizens on social media to remind them to keep the doors locked on their cars and storage buildings. The department has raised \$1312.00 for No Shave November which will benefit Wings of Hope Pediatric Foundation. The department is getting ready for the Christmas parade.

DISCUSSION – NATURE TRAIL

The property across from Walton Street will be a one mile walking trail. The large sycamore tree is the trail head. The east side has been cut and the west side had already been cut. The City is working on bridges to put in to cross the creek. The property belongs to Mayor Handley and he is either going to donate it to the City or do a long term lease for \$1.00 a year.

DISCUSSION – TEMPORARY LOCATION FOR FOOD TRUCKS FOR CHRISTMAS PARADE

The Council discussed a temporary location for food trucks for the Christmas parade at the last work session. The food trucks will be at the Broadway entrance to Old Mill Park. This is where the City garage is currently located. There are four food truck that will be at the parade and they will be setting up at 5:00. At 4:00, there will be a musical performance in the entrance of the Shelby County Arts Council.

PROCLAMATION HUMAN TRAFFICKING AWARENESS MONTH

WHEREAS, human trafficking is a very real problem facing the world today. Although it can take many forms, including debt bondage, forced marriage, slavery and commercial sexual exploitation, in every case it goes against the core principles of individual freedom and civil rights that our state and nation stand for. The City of Columbiana, Alabama is committed to ensuring that our community remains on the front lines in combating this deplorable crime, and

WHEREAS, due to its secretive and illegal nature, it is difficult to accurately quantify the extent of **human trafficking**. However, the U.S. Department of State estimates that anywhere from 600,000 to 800,000 people are trafficked across international borders each year. Most victims of **human trafficking** are women or children who have been marginalized and isolated from society. The difficulty in grasping the full scope of this problem can be further compounded because people often turn a blind eye to it, and

WHEREAS, the first step in eliminating **human trafficking** is to educate others. We must work to ensure that all our residents are aware of this problem and how to spot it. We must work together as a community so that human traffickers are punished and to protect and assist their victims. Through the vigilance and perseverance of our citizens, effective enforcement of justice will someday be a reality, and

WHEREAS, we ask all residents of this community to join us in raising the visibility of this crime whose victims are all too often invisible. Together, we can become more informed about this pressing issue and work to combat its injustices.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Stancil Handley, Mayor of the City of Columbiana do hereby proclaim January 2020, as "**Human Trafficking Awareness Month**" in Columbiana, Alabama.

RESOLUTION 11-19-01
RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A ONE-TIME PAY INCREASE

WHEREAS, the Columbiana City Council would like to provide a one-time pay increase to its employees; and

WHEREAS, the Columbiana City Council has adequate funds in the payroll account to cover this expenditure that is included in the FY2020 Budget; and

WHEREAS, it is the responsibility of the City Council to approve a budget that is consistent with the revenue and expenditures reflecting their priorities for the City of Columbiana and wishes to provide the increase to employees.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Columbiana that the City Council hereby authorizes the payment of a one-time pay increase for all active full-time and all active part-time employees, in the amount of \$215.00 (net pay) for full-time employees and \$115.00 (net pay) for part-time employees, in active status as of November 15, 2019, and having worked at least their budgeted number of hours since October 1, at an approximate cost to the City of \$15,000.00.

THEREUPON Council Member Whiting moved and Council Member King seconded the motion that said resolution be given vote, and said resolution passed by roll call vote of all members of the Council and the Mayor declared the same passed.

	Yea	Nay		Yea	Nay
Council Member Whiting	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	Council Member Mayfield	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Council Member Moore	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	Council Member King	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Council Member Ruston	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>	Mayor Handley	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>

Passed, adopted and approved this 19th day of November, 2019.

DISCUSSION – OTHER CITY BUSINESS

Mike McCain with Insane McCain Fireworks is asking permission to move his fireworks location to 404 West College Street. He was located on the property that has been purchased by Taco Bell. The new location is owned by Rob McLeroy and he has given permission for the fireworks stand to be moved to his property. This business has been well over the last four years and brought in tax dollars for the City. After discussion, council approved the location move.

The Library applied for two grants. One was approved and that was used for homeschool books and materials. The other grant was denied. This grant would have been used to buy new patron computers. The library has eleven computers that need to be replaced. They also wanted to purchase ten laptops for computer classes. Shelia will get quotes and the budget will have to be amended for these purchases.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Springs Crossing update: 12-14 home are occupied. They just sold lots 28 and 29. They built two spec home and those are the two that have not sold because everyone wants custom houses.

Hand Arendall contacted the Mayor about the abatement at 108 South Main Street. If the abatement does not proceed by the end of the month, the process will have to start over. The City has gotten a quote for the mold, asbestos, lead removal and demolition of the building for \$89,000.00. The Mayor met with the property owner last Thursday and he said he would get back in touch with the Mayor and he has not. Council is in unanimous agreement to move forward. Council Member Mayfield made a motion to proceed with the abatement. The Mayor will contact the property owner to see if he is going to take the building down. If not, the City will proceed.

Council inquired about the abatement of the property on Highway 47 North. The Mayor has been in contact with that property owner and she wanted to handle the demolition of that property but has not. The Mayor will contact her again.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- None

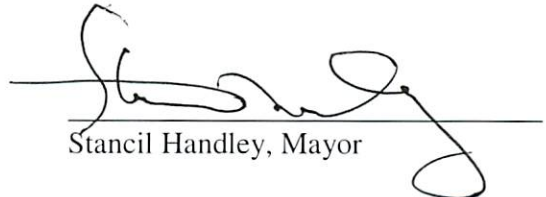
PUBLIC COMMENT

Jason Garrard asked what was discussed at the work session regarding the noise ordinance. Council Member Mayfield informed him that we have formed a committee and are looking at the ordinances from other cities to make changes to ours.

There being no further business, Council Member Ruston moved that the meeting be adjourned which was seconded by Council Member Whiting. The motion passed by vote of all members of the Council present. Mayor Handley declared the meeting adjourned at 7:47 p.m.



Charlene Tucker, City Clerk



Stancil Handley, Mayor

